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JAN
THE NEW MUTANTS™
MAGNETO'S IN CHARGE!
THE SCHOOL WILL NEVER BE THE SAME..
M.W.
'85

STAN LEE PRESENTS...
The Times, They Are A'changin'!
I WISH I COULD WELCOME YOU NEW MUTANTS HOME WITH HAPPIER NEWS. BUT IT IS MY SAD DUTY TO INFORM YOU,,,
...THAT PROFESSOR XAVIER WILL NOT BE RETURNING TO THE SCHOOL.
CHRIS CLAREMONT WRITER
MARY WILSHIRE
BILL SIENKIEWICZ
ARTISTS
TOM & LOIS, LETTERS PETRA SCOTESE, COLORS
ANN NOCENTI, EDITOR JIM SHOOTER, EDITOR IN CHIEF

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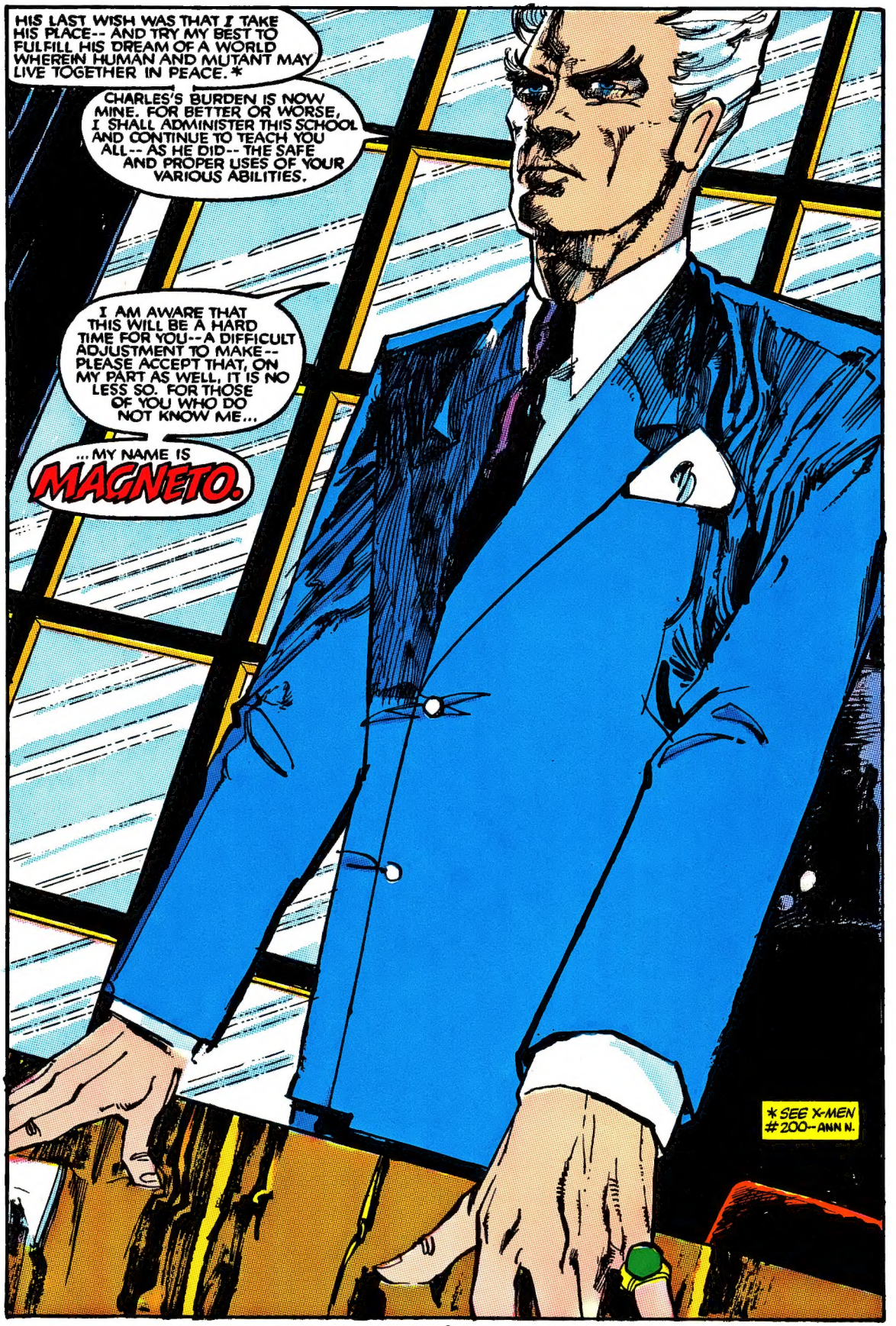
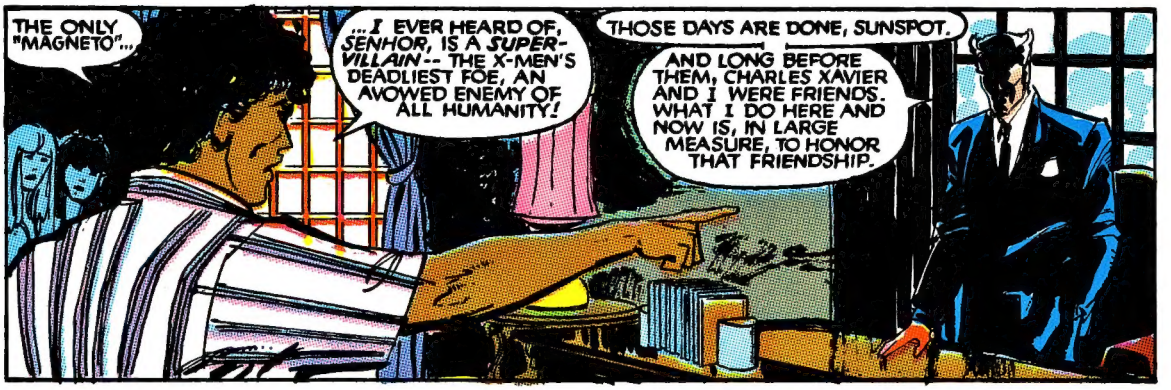
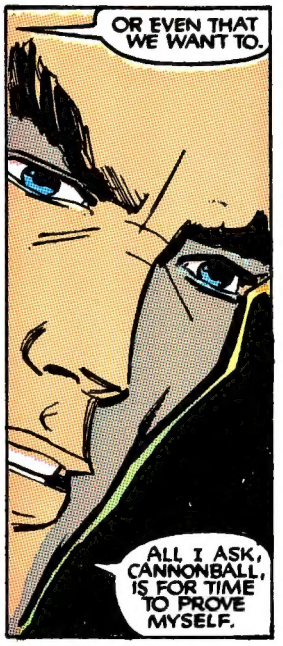

HIS LAST WISH WAS THAT I TAKE HIS PLACE-- AND TRY MY BEST TO FULFILL HIS DREAM OF A WORLD WHEREIN HUMAN AND MUTANT MAY LIVE TOGETHER IN PEACE.*
CHARLES'S BURDEN IS NOW MINE. FOR BETTER OR WORSE, I SHALL ADMINISTER THIS SCHOOL AND CONTINUE TO TEACH YOU ALL-- AS HE DID-- THE SAFE AND PROPER USES OF YOUR VARIOUS ABILITIES.
I AM AWARE THAT THIS WILL BE A HARD TIME FOR YOU--A DIFFICULT ADJUSTMENT TO MAKE-- PLEASE ACCEPT THAT, ON MY PART AS WELL, IT IS NO LESS SO. FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO DO NOT KNOW ME...
...MY NAME IS MAGNETO.
*SEE X-MEN #200--ANN N.


THE ONLY "MAGNETO"...
...I EVER HEARD OF, SENHOR, IS A SUPER-VILLAIN -- THE X-MEN'S DEADLIEST FOE, AN AVOWED ENEMY OF ALL HUMANITY!
THOSE DAYS ARE DONE, SUNSPOT.
AND LONG BEFORE THEM, CHARLES XAVIER AND I WERE FRIENDS. WHAT I DO HERE AND NOW IS, IN LARGE MEASURE, TO HONOR THAT FRIENDSHIP.

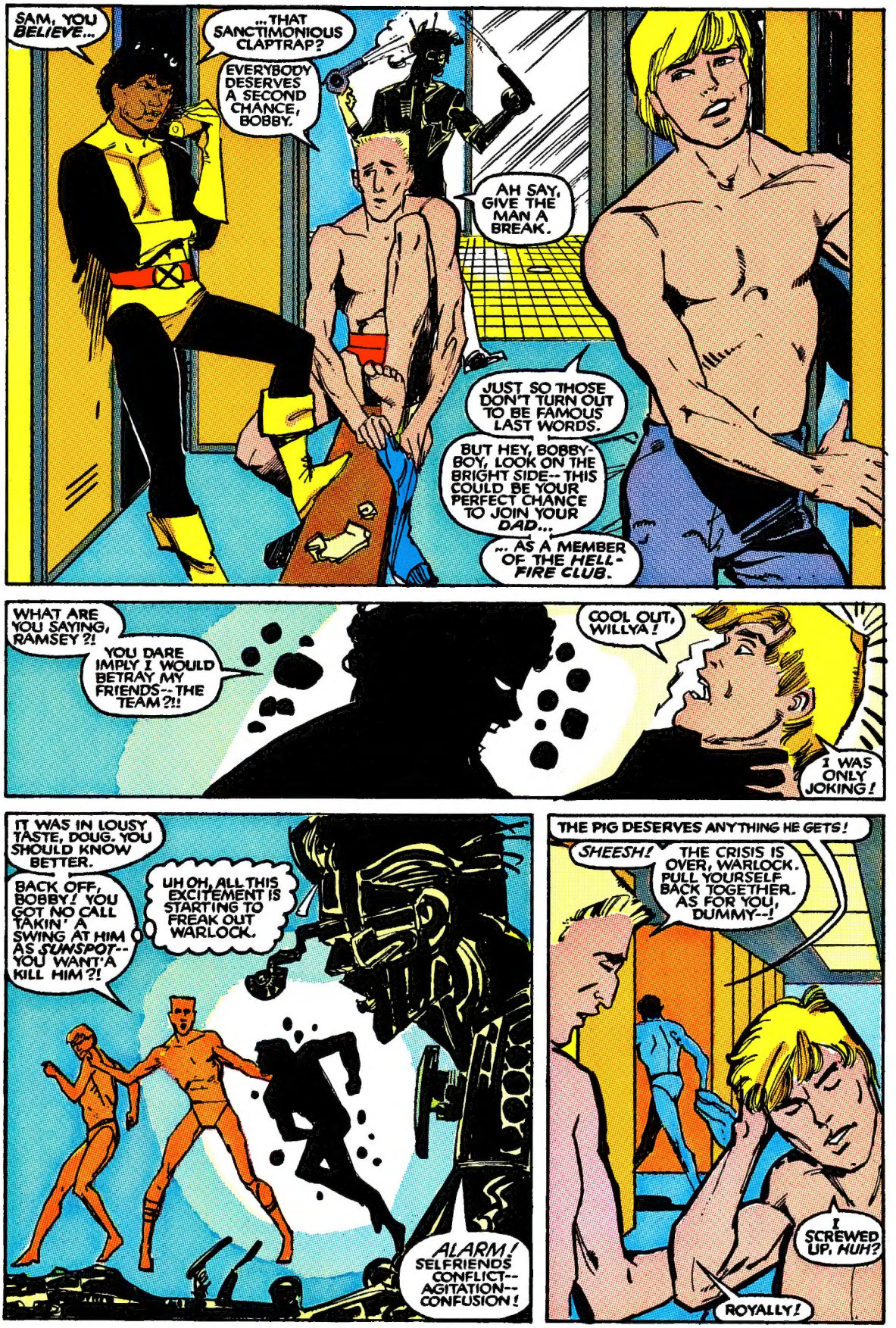
CAT
AH 'PRECIATE YOUR LEVELIN' WITH US, SIR, BUT A REP LIKE YOURS IS PRETTY HARD TO IGNORE.
A LOT OF US AIN'T SURE WE CAN TRUST YOU.

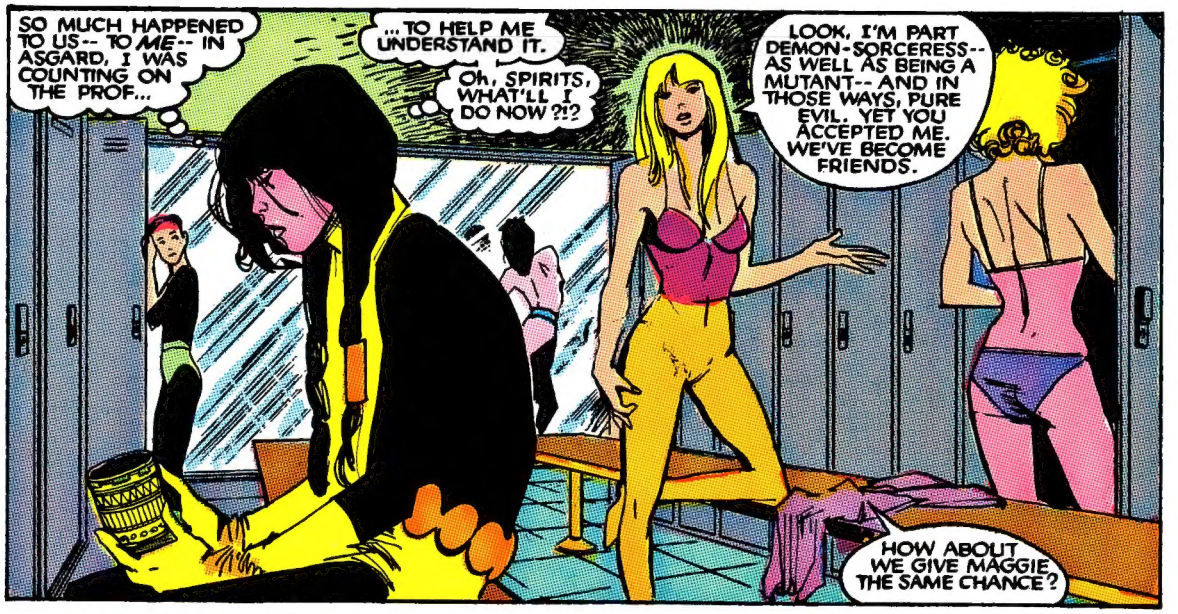

OR EVEN THAT WE WANT TO.
ALL I ASK, CANNONBALL, IS FOR TIME TO PROVE MYSELF.

IS THAT SO MUCH?
MAYBE.

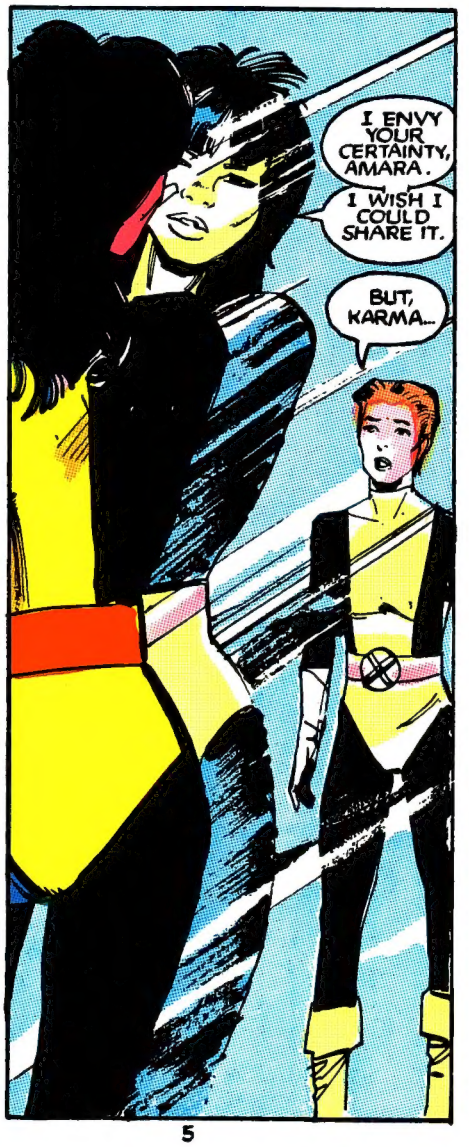
YOU'VE LEARNED MUCH, CYPHER...

...ABOUT WHO YOU ARE AND WHAT YOU CAN BE, BUT YOU'VE BARELY SCRATCHED THE SURFACE. I WANT TO HELP YOU ACHIEVE THAT POTENTIAL.
CONSIDER IT, IN A SENSE, THE PATH I MUST WALK TO MY REDEMPTION. I HAVE DONE GREAT EVIL IN MY LIFE. THIS -- TO ME, AS TO CHARLES -- SEEMS THE BEST WAY OF PUTTING THINGS RIGHT.
CAT!
NOW -- CHARLES' NOTES ON ALL OF YOU ARE QUITE COMPLETE, BUT I PREFER TO SEE YOU IN ACTION FOR MYSELF. SHALL WE REPAIR, STUDENTS, TO THE DANGER ROOM...

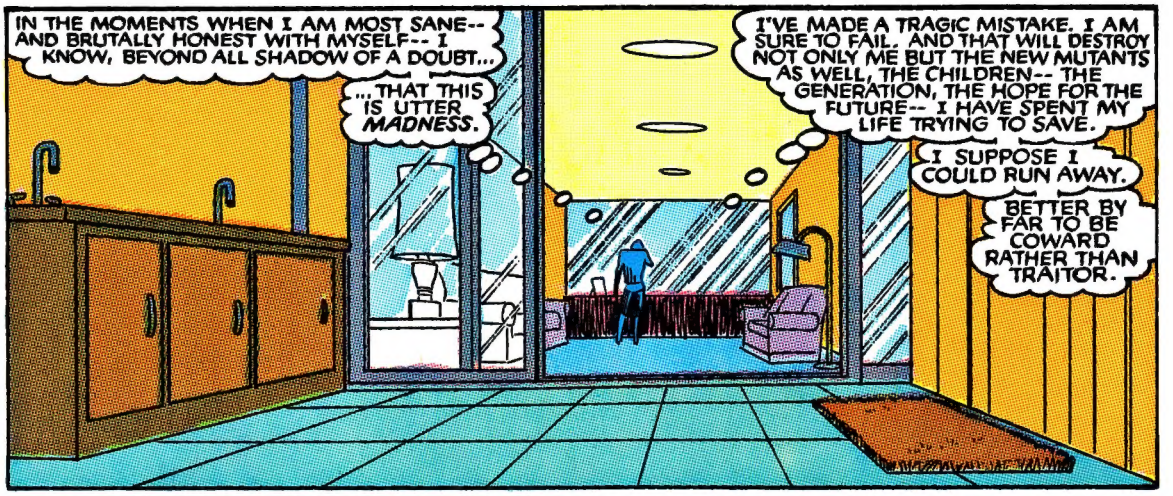

SAM, YOU BELIEVE...
...THAT SANCTIMONIOUS CLAPTRAP?
EVERYBODY DESERVES A SECOND CHANCE, BOBBY.
AH SAY, GIVE THE MAN A BREAK.
JUST SO THOSE DON'T TURN OUT TO BE FAMOUS LAST WORDS.
BUT HEY, BOBBY-BOY, LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE-- THIS COULD BE YOUR PERFECT CHANCE TO JOIN YOUR DAD...
...AS A MEMBER OF THE HELL-FIRE CLUB.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, RAMSEY?!
YOU DARE IMPLY I WOULD BETRAY MY FRIENDS--THE TEAM?!!
COOL OUT, WILLYA!
I WAS ONLY JOKING!
IT WAS IN LOUSY TASTE, DOUG. YOU SHOULD KNOW BETTER.
BACK OFF, BOBBY! YOU GOT NO CALL TAKIN' A SWING AT HIM AS SUNSPOT-- YOU WANT'A KILL HIM?!
UH OH, ALL THIS EXCITEMENT IS STARTING TO FREAK OUT WARLOCK.
ALARM! SELFRIENDS CONFLICT-- AGITATION-- CONFUSION!
THE PIG DESERVES ANYTHING HE GETS!
SHEESH!
THE CRISIS IS OVER, WARLOCK. PULL YOURSELF BACK TOGETHER. AS FOR YOU, DUMMY--!
I SCREWED UP, HUH?
ROYALLY!


SO MUCH HAPPENED TO US-- TO ME-- IN ASGARD, I WAS COUNTING ON THE PROF...
...TO HELP ME UNDERSTAND IT.
Oh, SPIRITS, WHAT'LL I DO NOW?!?
LOOK, I'M PART DEMON-SORCERESS-- AS WELL AS BEING A MUTANT-- AND IN THOSE WAYS, PURE EVIL. YET YOU ACCEPTED ME. WE'VE BECOME FRIENDS.
HOW ABOUT WE GIVE MAGGIE THE SAME CHANCE?

I SIDE WITH ILLYANA. I HAVE ONLY KNOWN HIM A SHORT TIME, BUT HE SEEMS A MOST NOBLE AND HONORABLE MAN.
I THINK MY FATHER WOULD LIKE HIM.


I ENVY YOUR CERTAINTY, AMARA.
I WISH I COULD SHARE IT.
BUT, KARMA...

COME, MES AMIS. WE ARE LATE-- AND IT WOULD NOT DO TO KEEP OUR NEW TEACHER WAITING ON HIS FIRST DAY.
YEAH-- WE DON'T WANT TO MAKE A BAD IMPRESSION...
...OR ANY-THING.


IN THE MOMENTS WHEN I AM MOST SANE-- AND BRUTALLY HONEST WITH MYSELF-- I KNOW, BEYOND ALL SHADOW OF A DOUBT...
...THAT THIS IS UTTER MADNESS.
I'VE MADE A TRAGIC MISTAKE. I AM SURE TO FAIL. AND THAT WILL DESTROY NOT ONLY ME BUT THE NEW MUTANTS AS WELL, THE CHILDREN-- THE GENERATION, THE HOPE FOR THE FUTURE-- I HAVE SPENT MY LIFE TRYING TO SAVE.
I SUPPOSE I COULD RUN AWAY.
BETTER BY FAR TO BE COWARD RATHER THAN TRAITOR.

BUT I WILL NOT, SOMEHOW, SOMEWAY, I MUST MUDDLE THROUGH.
I WISH, THOUGH, I WERE DOING IT...
...WITH YOU BY MY SIDE, ALEYTYS.

so everything OK on that score.
The new season impossible to for at least t
I'll miss you darling
xxoo love, Lee

WE EACH HAVE OUR RESPONSIBILITIES-- YOU TO YOUR BOAT AND CREW, ME TO XAVIER'S SCHOOL. IT MAY WELL BE MONTHS BEFORE WE MEET AGAIN.
I MISS YOU, TOO.
ANOTHER SURPRISE.

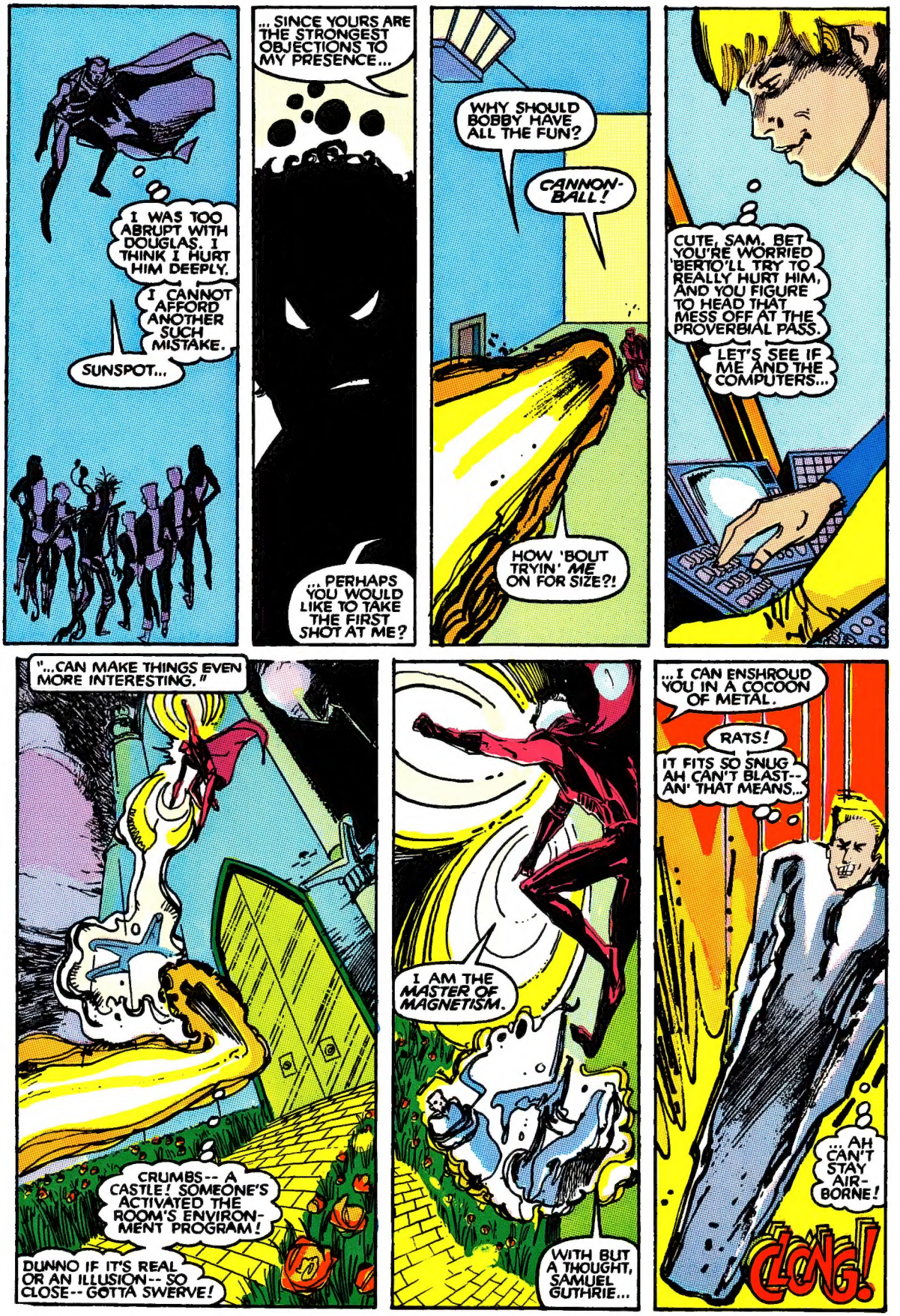
I THOUGHT I WAS BEYOND SUCH CARING.
IS EVERYONE READY? SPLENDID.
CYPHER, THE EXERCISE IS TO MEASURE PHYSICAL ABILITIES. SINCE YOUR LINGUISTIC TALENT IS MENTAL...

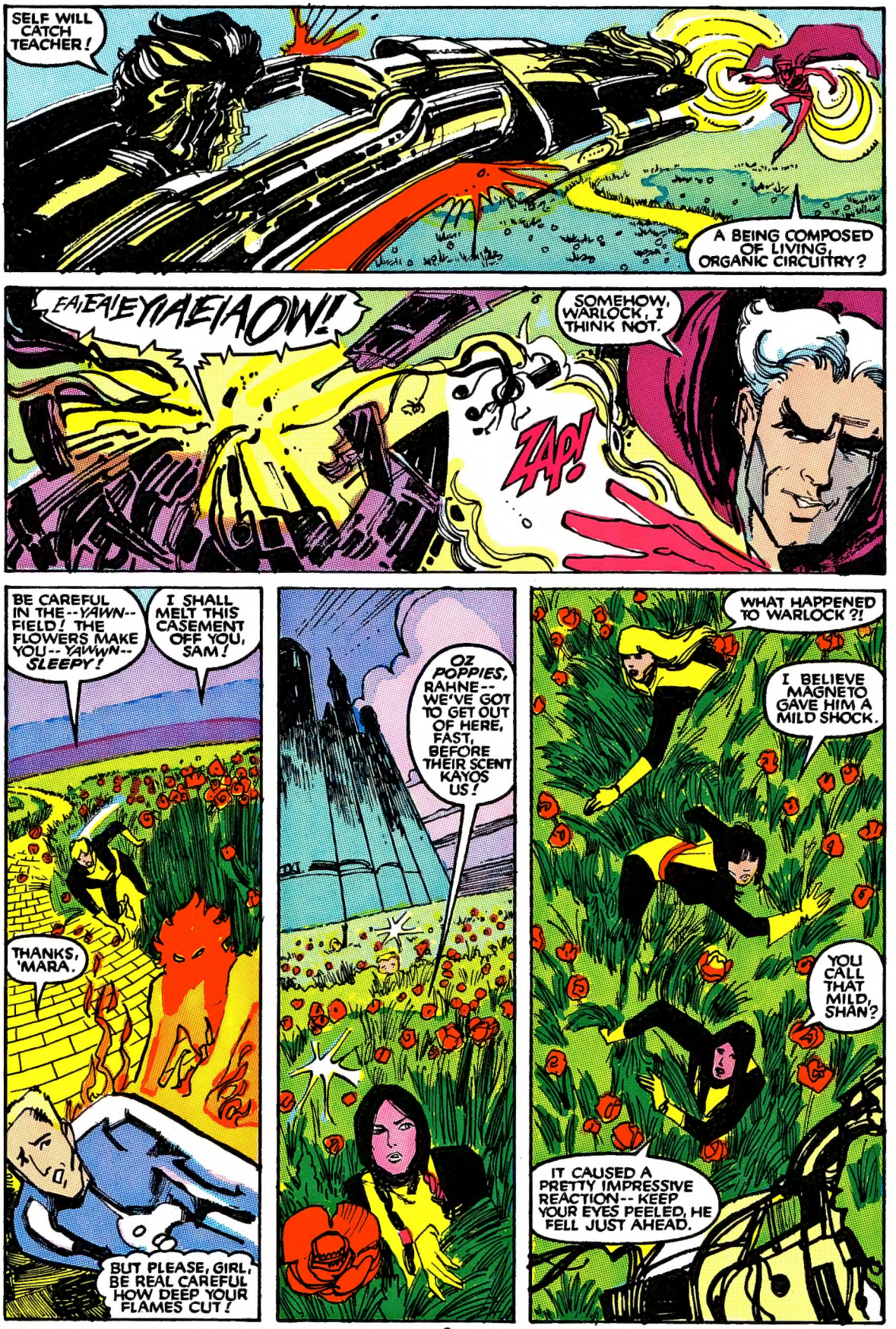
...THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO PARTICIPATE.
MAGNETO, HE'S PART OF THE TEAM--!
FORGET IT, CHIEF!
I'M NOT WORTH THE GRIEF!

WHO THE HECK DOES THAT BUTTHEAD THINK HE IS?!!
MAGNETO ISN'T BEING ARBITRARY, DOUG-- HE HAS SOUND REASONS.
LEMME GUESS, SHARON-- HE'S AFRAID I'LL GET HURT, RIGHT?
Xavier's

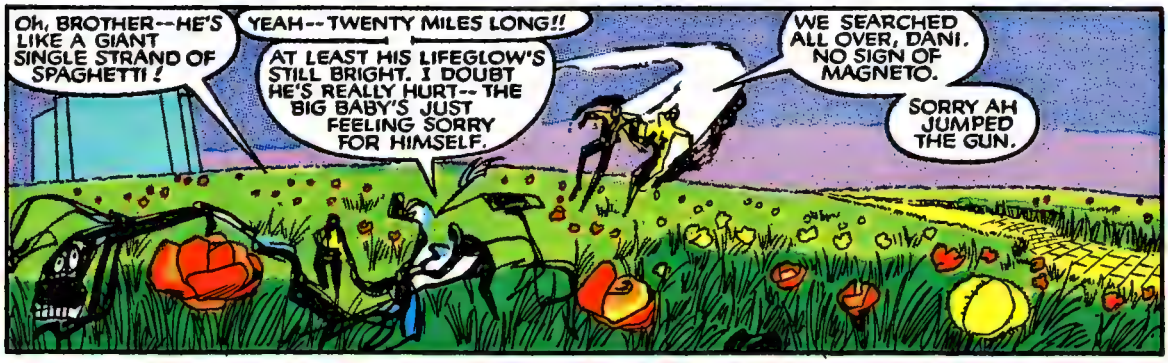
HEY, I'M JUST AS SCARED!
IT'S NOT MY FAULT I GOT STUCK WITH SUCH A WIMP POWER-- IT'S A PEACH, I CAN YELL "DON'T SHOOT" IN ANY LANGUAGE THERE IS, BIG FAT HAIRY DEAL! I KNOW THAT MAKES ME THE TEAM'S WEAK LINK.
ALL THE MORE REASON I SHOULD BE DOWN THERE WITH MY BUDDIES, INSTEAD OF UP HERE IN THE CONTROL BOOTH, WHERE IT'S SAFE. I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO PULL MY OWN WEIGHT IF NO ONE GIVES ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN HOW!

DARN IT, SHARON, I EARNED MY PLACE AMONG THE NEW MUTANTS--
--HE HAS NO RIGHT TO TAKE IT AWAY!
MAGNETO'S DONE NO SUCH THING, DOUG. THIS IS ONLY AN EXERCISE, NOTHING MORE.
IF THE NEW TEACH DOESN'T HAVE ANY FAITH IN ME NOW, TOM...
...WHEN WILL HE?!

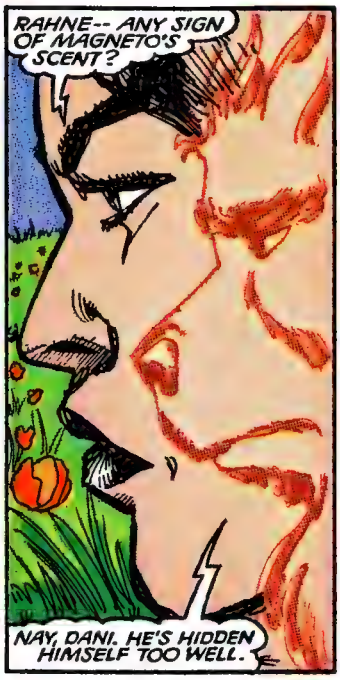

I WAS TOO ABRUPT WITH DOUGLAS. I THINK I HURT HIM DEEPLY.
I CANNOT AFFORD ANOTHER SUCH MISTAKE.
SUNSPOT...
... SINCE YOURS ARE THE STRONGEST OBJECTIONS TO MY PRESENCE...
... PERHAPS YOU WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THE FIRST SHOT AT ME?
WHY SHOULD BOBBY HAVE ALL THE FUN?
CANNON-BALL!
HOW 'BOUT TRYIN' ME ON FOR SIZE?!
CUTE, SAM. BET YOU'RE WORRIED 'BERTO'LL TRY TO REALLY HURT HIM, AND YOU FIGURE TO HEAD THAT MESS OFF AT THE PROVERBIAL PASS.
LET'S SEE IF ME AND THE COMPUTERS...
"...CAN MAKE THINGS EVEN MORE INTERESTING."
CRUMBS-- A CASTLE! SOMEONE'S ACTIVATED THE ROOM'S ENVIRON-MENT PROGRAM!
DUNNO IF IT'S REAL OR AN ILLUSION-- SO CLOSE-- GOTTA SWERVE!
I AM THE MASTER OF MAGNETISM.
WITH BUT A THOUGHT, SAMUEL GUTHRIE...
...I CAN ENSHROUD YOU IN A COCOON OF METAL.
RATS!
IT FITS SO SNUG AH CAN'T BLAST-- AN' THAT MEANS...
... AH CAN'T STAY AIR-BORNE!
CLONG!

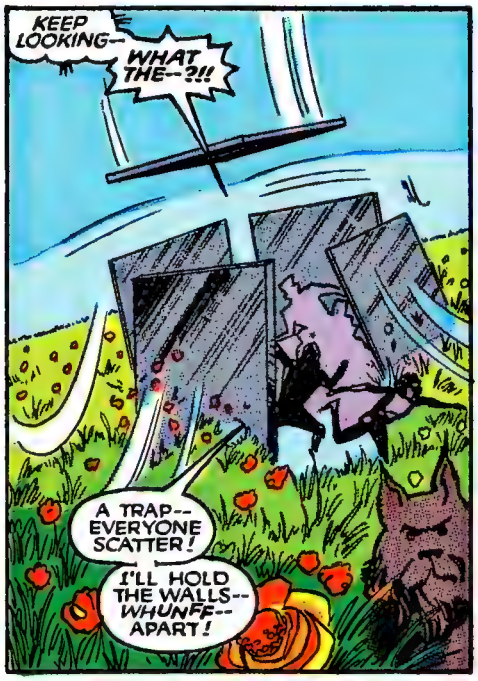

SELF WILL CATCH TEACHER!
A BEING COMPOSED OF LIVING, ORGANIC CIRCUITRY?
EAIEAIEYIAEIAOW!
SOMEHOW, WARLOCK, I THINK NOT.
ZAP!
BE CAREFUL IN THE--YAWN-- FIELD! THE FLOWERS MAKE YOU-- YAWWN-- SLEEPY!
I SHALL MELT THIS CASEMENT OFF YOU, SAM!
THANKS, 'MARA.
BUT PLEASE, GIRL, BE REAL CAREFUL HOW DEEP YOUR FLAMES CUT!
OZ POPPIES, RAHNE-- WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE, FAST, BEFORE THEIR SCENT KAYOS US!
WHAT HAPPENED TO WARLOCK?!
I BELIEVE MAGNETO GAVE HIM A MILD SHOCK.
YOU CALL THAT MILD, SHAN?
IT CAUSED A PRETTY IMPRESSIVE REACTION-- KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED, HE FELL JUST AHEAD.

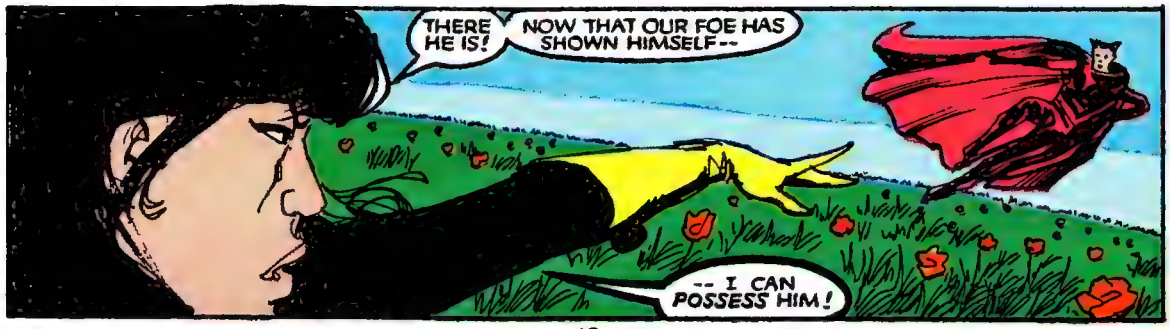
ow!
WHOOPS!
WARLOCK?!?
whimpersnufflemoansniffsobsobboohoo


OH, BROTHER--HE'S LIKE A GIANT SINGLE STRAND OF SPAGHETTI!
YEAH--TWENTY MILES LONG!!
AT LEAST HIS LIFEGLOW'S STILL BRIGHT. I DOUBT HE'S REALLY HURT-- THE BIG BABY'S JUST FEELING SORRY FOR HIMSELF.
WE SEARCHED ALL OVER, DANI. NO SIGN OF MAGNETO.
SORRY AH JUMPED THE GUN.

THAT DOESN'T MEAN A HECKUVA LOT, SAM. IN A REAL FIGHT, THAT KIND OF STUPID, SOLO STUNT COULD HAVE GOTTEN YOU KILLED!
WE'RE NO MATCH FOR MAGNETO AS INDIVIDUALS, WE HAVE TO WORK AS A TEAM!
I'M GOING TO USE MY PSI-LINK TO CONTACT WOLFSBANE--


RAHNE-- ANY SIGN OF MAGNETO'S SCENT?
NAY, DANI. HE'S HIDDEN HIMSELF TOO WELL.

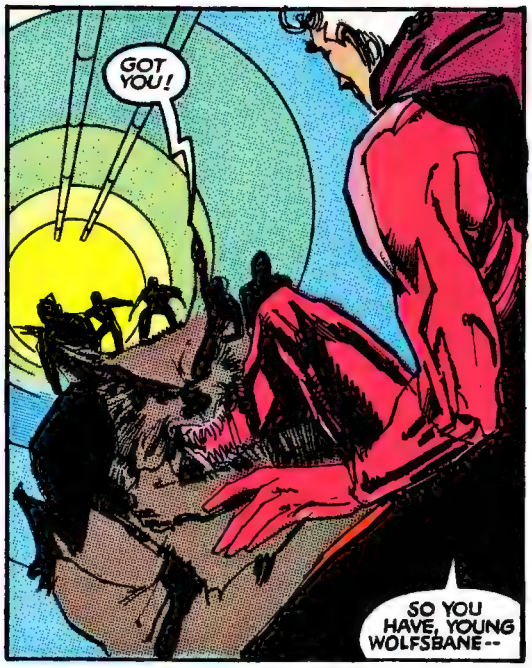

KEEP LOOKING--
WHAT THE--?!!
A TRAP-- EVERYONE SCATTER!
I'LL HOLD THE WALLS-- WHUNFF-- APART!


THERE HE IS!
NOW THAT OUR FOE HAS SHOWN HIMSELF--
-- I CAN POSSESS HIM!

YOUR POWER IS FORMIDABLE, KARMA...
... BUT NOT FOOLPROOF...
... AGAINST ONE WITH THE PROPER PSYCHIC TRAINING AND SUFFICIENT WILL TO RESIST.
HE REFLECTED MY ATTACK BACK ON ME!
I'VE POSSESSED ROBERT!

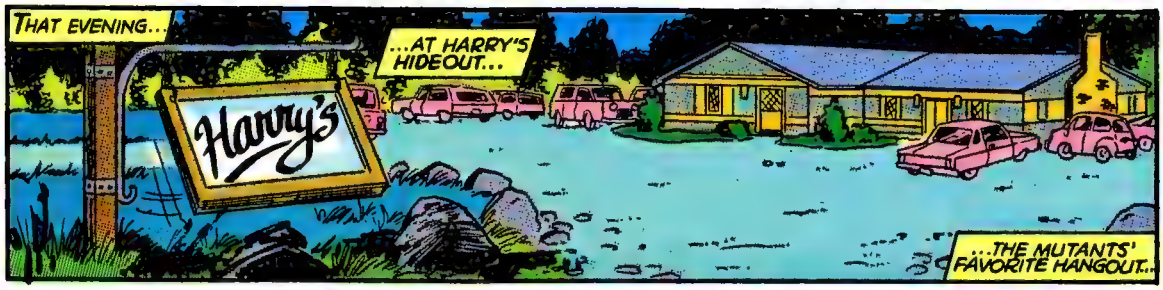
THE BOX HAS CLOSED! WE'RE SEALED IN!!
NO PROBLEM. I'LL TELEPORT US OUT.
KARMA RELEASED BOBBY. HE'S GROGGY-- BUT OKAY.

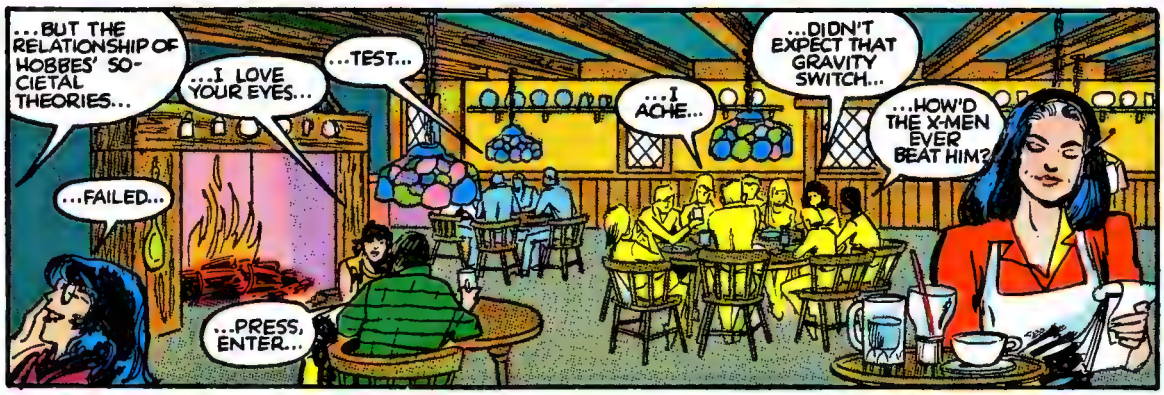
AND, AFTER MAGIK WHISKS HER FELLOW MUTANTS FROM THEIR PRISON TO LIMBO-- THE OTHER-DIMENSIONAL SORCEROUS DOMAIN SHE RULES--
-- AND BACK TO THE DANGER ROOM...

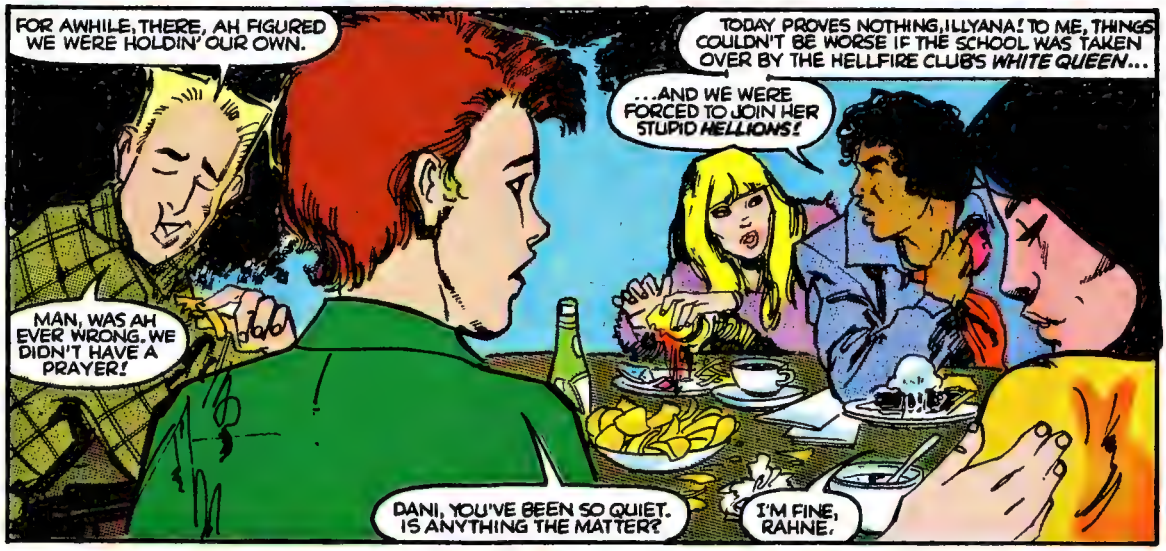

GOT YOU!
SO YOU HAVE, YOUNG WOLFSBANE--

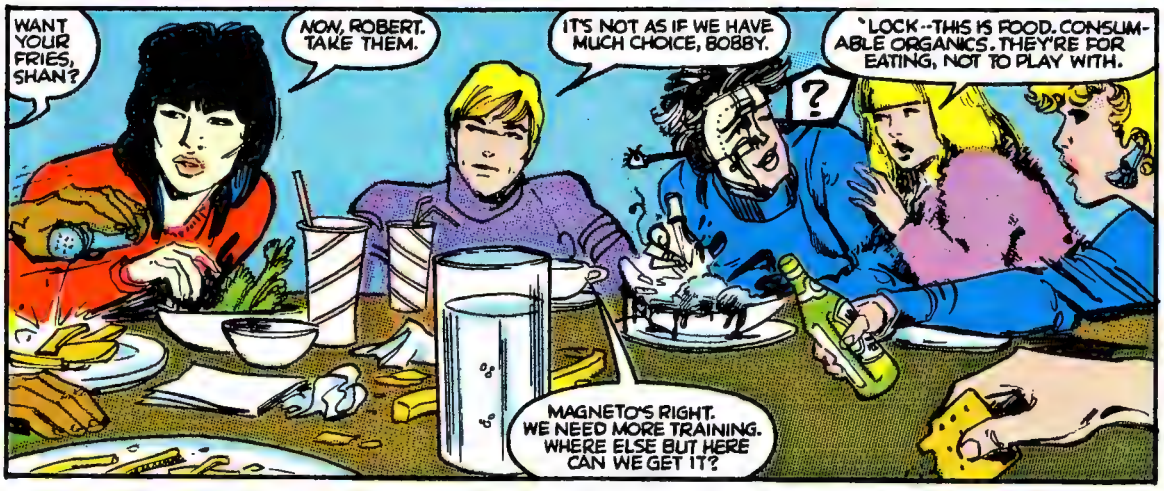
--BUT NOT FOR LONG.
BEHOLD WHAT OCCURS WHEN I GENERATE SUFFICIENT POWER TO EFFECTIVELY REVERSE GRAVITY!
YAIOW!

THE FIRST ROUND, I THINK, GOES TO ME.
NOW, ONCE CYPHER HAS RESET HIS COMPUTERS...
... WE SHALL BEGIN AGAIN-- IN EARNEST.

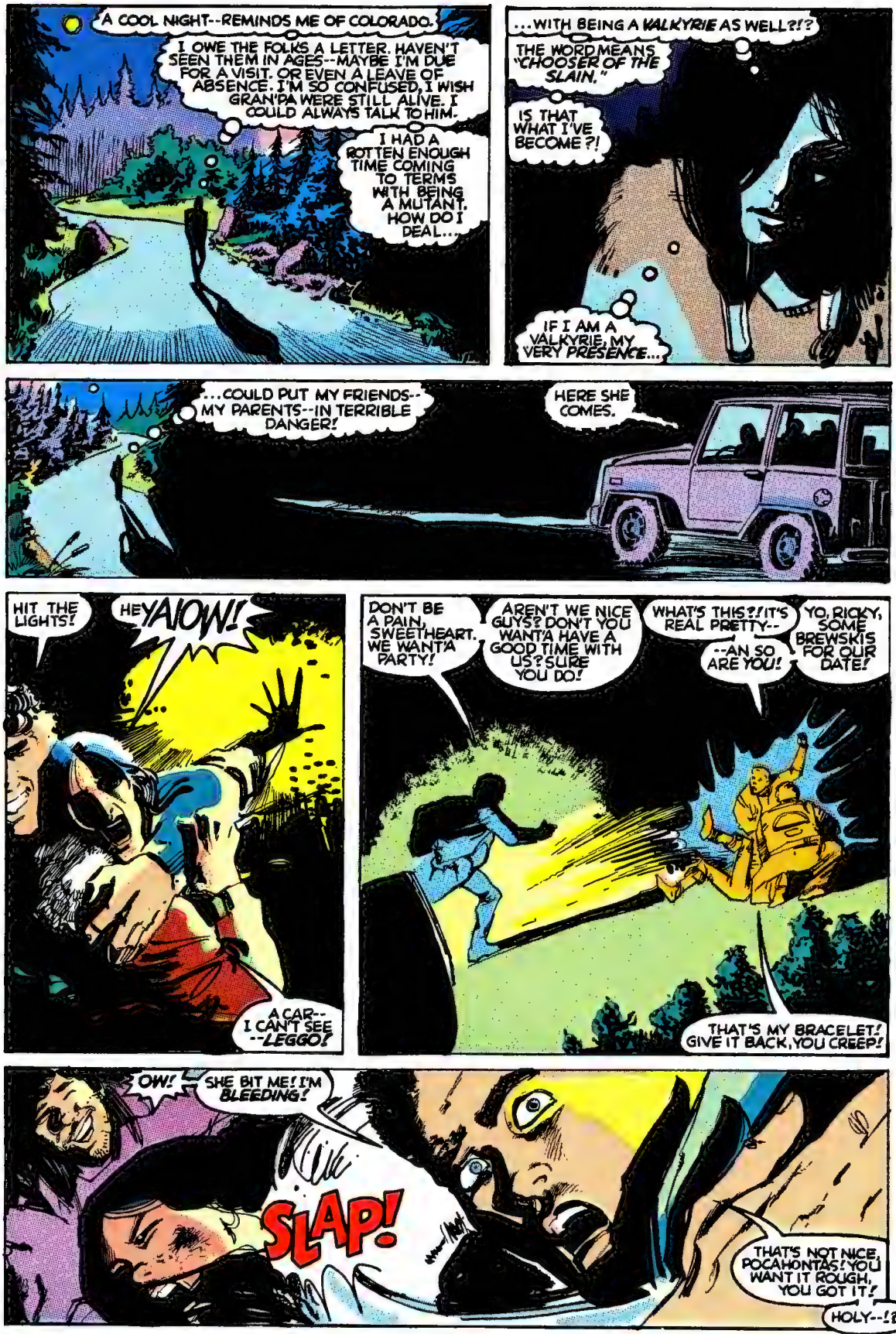

THAT EVENING...
...AT HARRY'S HIDEOUT...
Harry's
...THE MUTANTS' FAVORITE HANGOUT...

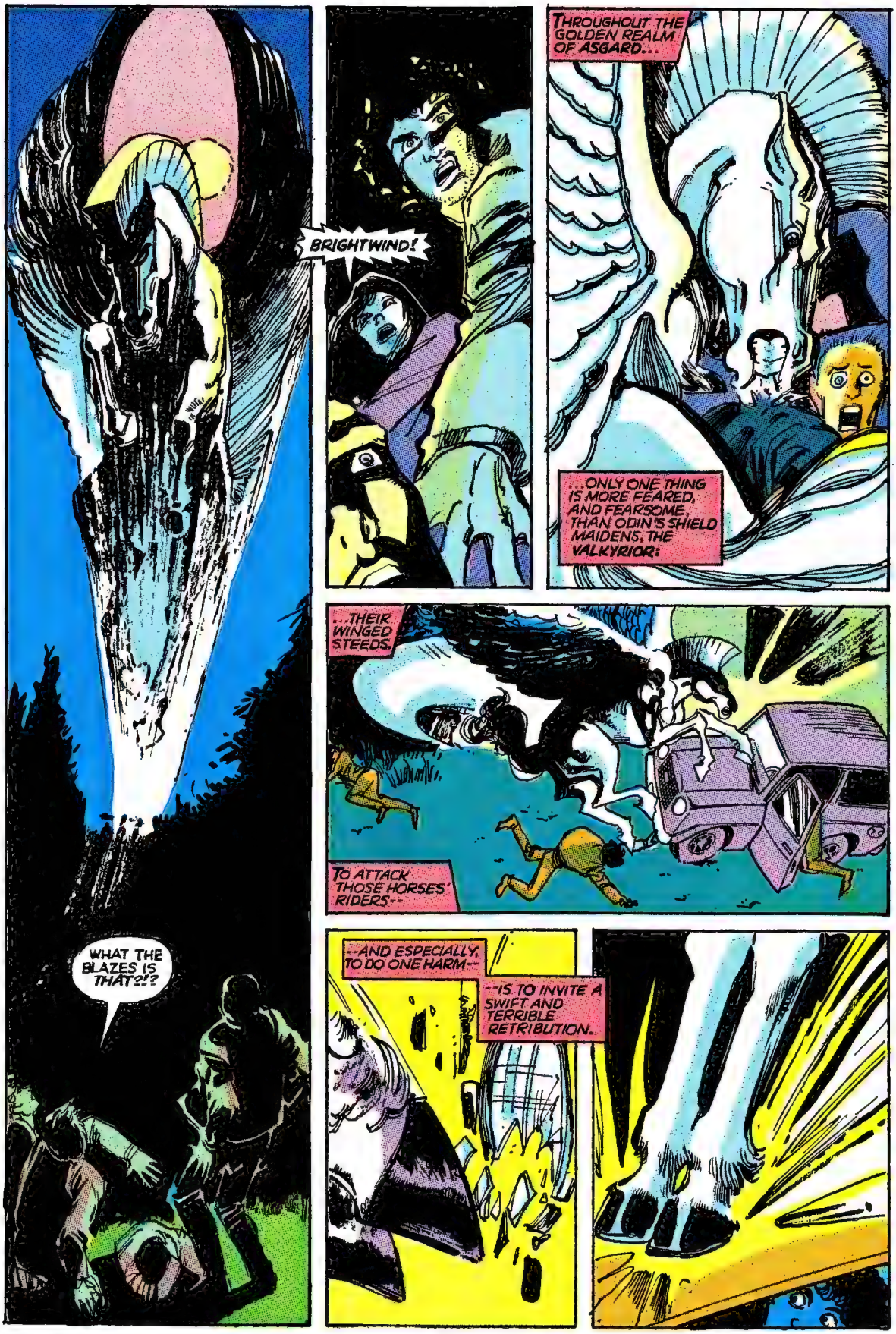

...BUT THE RELATIONSHIP OF HOBBES' SOCIETAL THEORIES...
...I LOVE YOUR EYES...
...TEST...
...I ACHE...
...DIDN'T EXPECT THAT GRAVITY SWITCH...
...HOW'D THE X-MEN EVER BEAT HIM?
...FAILED...
...PRESS, ENTER...


FOR AWHILE, THERE, AH FIGURED WE WERE HOLDIN' OUR OWN.
TODAY PROVES NOTHING, ILLYANA! TO ME, THINGS COULDN'T BE WORSE IF THE SCHOOL WAS TAKEN OVER BY THE HELLFIRE CLUB'S WHITE QUEEN...
...AND WE WERE FORCED TO JOIN HER STUPID HELLIONS!
MAN, WAS AH EVER WRONG. WE DIDN'T HAVE A PRAYER!
DANI, YOU'VE BEEN SO QUIET. IS ANYTHING THE MATTER?
I'M FINE, RAHNE.


WANT YOUR FRIES, SHAN?
NOW, ROBERT. TAKE THEM.
IT'S NOT AS IF WE HAVE MUCH CHOICE, BOBBY.
`LOCK--THIS IS FOOD. CONSUMABLE ORGANICS. THEY'RE FOR EATING, NOT TO PLAY WITH.
?
MAGNETO'S RIGHT. WE NEED MORE TRAINING. WHERE ELSE BUT HERE CAN WE GET IT?

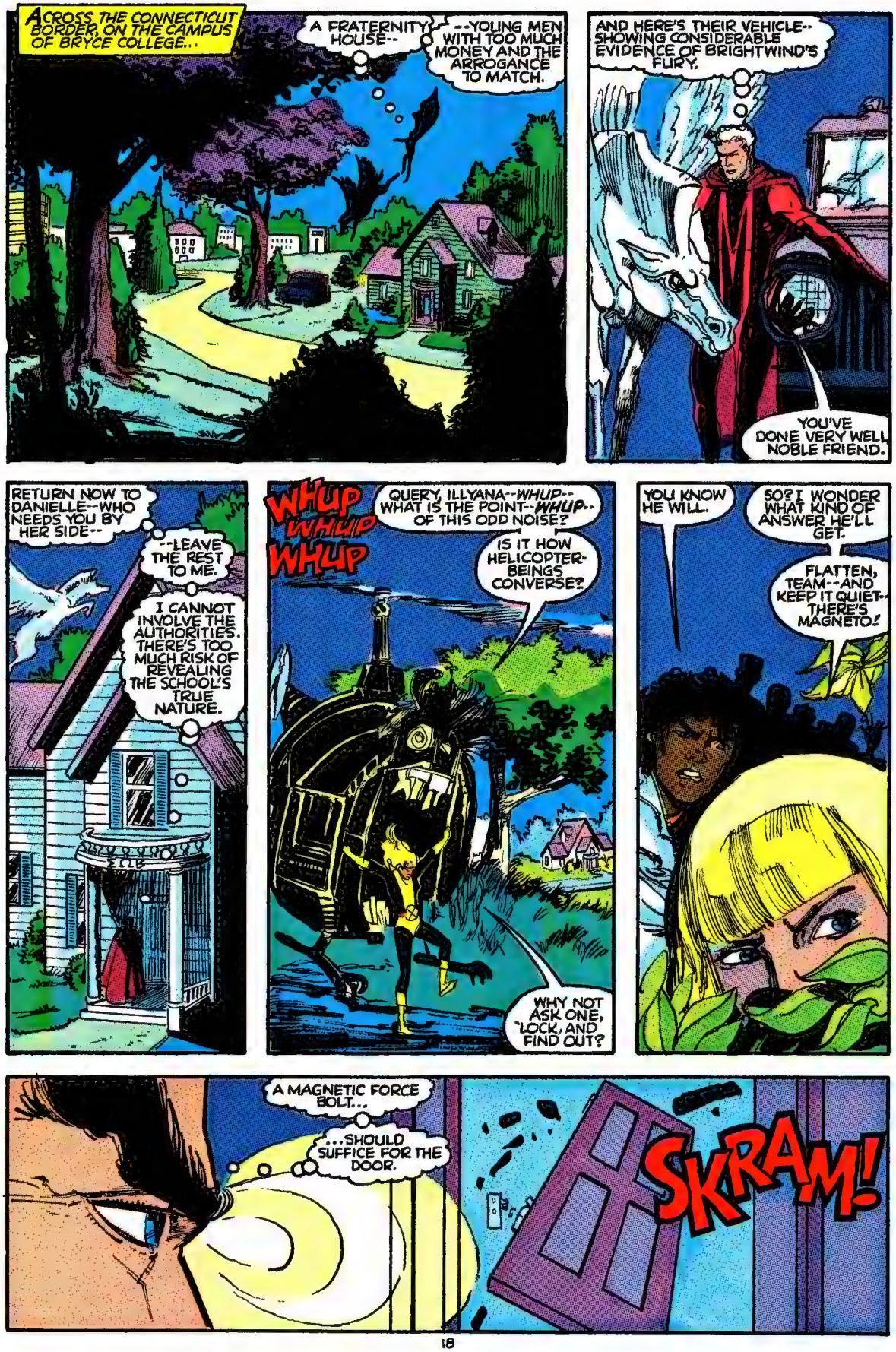
I HAVE ALREADY BEEN SLAVE TO ONE VILLAIN MES AMIS--
--I SHALL NOT BECOME SO TO ANOTHER.
BUT SHAN, WITHOUT THE PROPER EDUCATION--
--YOU'LL ALWAYS BE VULNERABLE. LOOK AT HOW EASILY MAGNETO DEFLECTED YOUR ATTACK THIS MORNIN!
OUR LIFE AS HEROES NEVER HELD MUCH ATTRACTION FOR ME IN THE FIRST PLACE, SAM.
MY PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY IS TO MY FAMILY--MY BABY BROTHER AND SISTER, LEONG AND NGA.
SUPPOSE THEY'RE MUTANTS, TOO, SHAN--WHAT THEN?
AN' WHAT'S YOUR BOTTOM LINE IN ALL THIS, BOBBY--YOU GONNA QUIT?!
IT'S GETTING LATE, KIDS.
TIME TO ROLL.
THANK YOU, SHARON.
SAM, TELL SHARON I'M GOING TO WALK HOME.
WANT COMPANY?
NEXT TIME.
TONIGHT I'D RATHER BE ON MY OWN.
Oho!
CHECK IT OUT, ME BRAVE BUCKAROOS...
...OUR QUEST FOR CUTIES MAY HAVE JUST STRUCK GOLD!


A COOL NIGHT--REMINDS ME OF COLORADO.
I OWE THE FOLKS A LETTER. HAVEN'T SEEN THEM IN AGES--MAYBE I'M DUE FOR A VISIT. OR EVEN A LEAVE OF ABSENCE. I'M SO CONFUSED, I WISH GRAN'PA WERE STILL ALIVE. I COULD ALWAYS TALK TO HIM.
I HAD A ROTTEN ENOUGH TIME COMING TO TERMS WITH BEING A MUTANT. HOW DO I DEAL...
...WITH BEING A VALKYRIE AS WELL?!?
THE WORD MEANS "CHOOSER OF THE SLAIN."
IS THAT WHAT I'VE BECOME?!
IF I AM A VALKYRIE, MY VERY PRESENCE...
...COULD PUT MY FRIENDS--MY PARENTS--IN TERRIBLE DANGER!
HERE SHE COMES.
HIT THE LIGHTS!
HEY
AIOW!
A CAR--I CAN'T SEE --LEGGO!
DON'T BE A PAIN, SWEETHEART. WE WANT'A PARTY!
AREN'T WE NICE GUYS? DON'T YOU WANT'A HAVE A GOOD TIME WITH US? SURE YOU DO!
WHAT'S THIS?! IT'S REAL PRETTY--
--AN SO ARE YOU!
YO, RICKY, SOME BREWSKIS FOR OUR DATE!
THAT'S MY BRACELET! GIVE IT BACK, YOU CREEP!
OW!
SHE BIT ME! I'M BLEEDING!
SLAP!
THAT'S NOT NICE, POCAHONTAS! YOU WANT IT ROUGH, YOU GOT IT!
HOLY--!?!


BRIGHTWIND!
THROUGHOUT THE GOLDEN REALM OF ASGARD...
...ONLY ONE THING IS MORE FEARED, AND FEARSOME, THAN ODIN'S SHIELD MAIDENS, THE VALKYRIOR:
...THEIR WINGED STEEDS.
TO ATTACK THOSE HORSES' RIDERS--
WHAT THE BLAZES IS THAT?!?
--AND ESPECIALLY, TO DO ONE HARM--
--IS TO INVITE A SWIFT AND TERRIBLE RETRIBUTION.

FOR DANI'S ASSAILANTS...
...DISCRETION QUICKLY PROVES THE BETTER PART OF VALOR.
BRIGHTWIND DOESN'T FOLLOW.
FOR AN IMMORTAL, THERE'S ALWAYS PLENTY OF TIME FOR THE HUNT.
HIS FIRST AND FOREMOST CONCERN...
...IS FOR HIS BELOVED RIDER.
AT THE MANSION...
THE ANIMAL IS ENRAGED--WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED?!
DANI SAID SHE WAS ATTACKED!
I'LL GET HER TO THE INFIRMARY!
SHARON'S A TOP NURSE. DANI COULDN'T BE IN BETTER HANDS.
MAGNETO, LOOK--FLAKES OF PAINT ON BRIGHTWIND'S HOOVES!

IF HE DID THE MUGGERS' CAR SOME DAMAGE...
...THE STATE POLICE SHOULDN'T HAVE ANY TROUBLE SPOTTING THEM. I'LL PUT IN A CALL...
NO, THOMAS.
MAGNETO, A CRIME'S BEEN COMMITTED.
CHARLES LEFT HIS STUDENTS IN MY CHARGE.
I SWORE I WOULD CARE FOR THEM AS MY OWN FLESH AND BLOOD--
--AND, BY THE ETERNAL, I SHALL!
FOLLOW THEM, BRIGHTWIND. LEAD ME TO THE COWARDLY SWINE WHO ASSAULTED YOUR MISTRESS!
OUTTA BED, EVERYONE! DANI'S BEEN AMBUSHED!
WHO?
WHERE?
HOW IS SHE--?!
WHEN?
BUT WE JUST LEFT HER--!
SHARON'S LOOKIN' AFTER HER.
Och--I CAN FEEL HER PAIN, THROUGH OUR SPECIAL MIND-LINK!
THERE WERE THREE OF THE SPALEEN--
--I SEE THEIR FACES IN HER MEMORY!
LOOK!
MAGNETO MUST BE GOING AFTER THEM!
HE'S GOT NERVE--THAT'S OUR JOB!


ACROSS THE CONNECTICUT BORDER, ON THE CAMPUS OF BRYCE COLLEGE...
A FRATERNITY HOUSE--
--YOUNG MEN WITH TOO MUCH MONEY AND THE ARROGANCE TO MATCH.
AND HERE'S THEIR VEHICLE--SHOWING CONSIDERABLE EVIDENCE OF BRIGHTWIND'S FURY.
YOU'VE DONE VERY WELL, NOBLE FRIEND.
RETURN NOW TO DANIELLE--WHO NEEDS YOU BY HER SIDE--
--LEAVE THE REST TO ME.
I CANNOT INVOLVE THE AUTHORITIES. THERE'S TOO MUCH RISK OF REVEALING THE SCHOOL'S TRUE NATURE.
WHUP WHUP WHUP
QUERY, ILLYANA--WHUP--WHAT IS THE POINT--WHUP--OF THIS ODD NOISE?
IS IT HOW HELICOPTER-BEINGS CONVERSE?
WHY NOT ASK ONE, 'LOCK, AND FIND OUT?
YOU KNOW HE WILL.
SO? I WONDER WHAT KIND OF ANSWER HE'LL GET.
FLATTEN, TEAM--AND KEEP IT QUIET--THERE'S MAGNETO!
A MAGNETIC FORCE BOLT...
...SHOULD SUFFICE FOR THE DOOR.
SKRAM!

BULLPEN BULLETINS

BY REQUEST. . .

I've been asked by a couple of comics dealers to reprint an item I ran a few years ago explaining what the different markings on Marvel covers mean. Okay . . .

SEEN ONE YOU SEEN 'EM BOTH DEP'T. . .

Many collectors have inquired about the two different types of covers they've seen on Marvel Comics. One type has the price, date, issue number, and some strange numbers and symbols in little boxes, like this:

Another has the price, date, and issue number in an "M" shape like so:

The reason for the two different covers is that our comics are circulated two different ways. Some reach the public via the Curtis Circulation Company and a network of Independent Distributor Wholesalers who service newsstands, drugstores, 7-11's, and other magazine outlets across the country. These comics whose covers have the little boxes. They carry the Curtis seal and, presumably, the strange numbers mean something to wholesaler-type people.

A substantial number of our comics are *not* distributed by Curtis, however. These comics go directly to comics specialty shops and other locations not serviced by I.D. Wholesalers. Since these comics aren't handled by Curtis, they don't need the funny little numbers and can't carry the Curtis seal—hence the artful M design, which so beautifully sets off the remaining info. Clever, huh? That's the scoop.

Apparently, some collectors were worried that the one type might be less valuable as collectables than the other type, or that the little boxes covers were "reprint" or vice versa. Well, how much our comics are worth as collectors' items really is up to *you* guys. Only in the marketplace can the value of a collectable be determined. We *can* tell you that the comics with both types of covers are printed at the same time, on the same presses, that neither type is a "reprint" of the other, and that except for the cover markings, the comics are identical in every way. All clear?

AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT. . .

Chuck Hoy, one of our friendly International Licensing folks informs me that a huge comics convention is coming up soon in *Australia*. Here are the facts:

Convention Name: The Australian Comic Convention
Dates: January 17, 18, 19, 1986
Place: Sidney Opera House
Guests: Stan Lee, Will Eisner, Jim Steranko, Frantz Kantor (An Australian Comics person)
Sponsors: Comic Empire Pty, Ltd. and Federal Publishing (Marvel's Australian licensed publisher!)
For information: Richard Rae, 25 Coward Street, Mascot NSW 2020 AUSTRALIA, Telex: AA22922

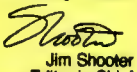
I hear it's going to be a very well organized affair with over *ten thousand* fans expected to attend. Wow. Sounds like a blast.

I don't imagine *too* many of you North American readers will be able to bop over to Australia and check it out, but isn't it a totally outrageous idea?! Tell you what—if you do make it to the Con, drop me a line and tell me all about it. I'll print the best Con Report on this page!

NEXT MONTH . . .

The winners of the Marvel Try-Out Contest will be announced. A bit *late*, but . . . if *you* had to judge over five thousand submissions you'd understand why it took so long! Anyway . . .

Hang in there,



Jim Shooter
Editor in Chief

CHECK LIST

- ☐ **THE THING #31**
- ☐ **DAREDEVIL #226**
- ☐ **NEW MUTANTS #35**
- ☐ **WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #10**
- ☐ **WEST COAST AVENGERS #4**
- ☐ **CLOAK AND DAGGER #4**—A **Secret Wars II** cross-over!
- ☐ **SQUADRON SUPREME (Limited Series) #5**
- ☐ **CONAN THE KING #32**
- ☐ **THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE #2**—Featuring everyone from Beast to Clea!
- ☐ **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #272**—Introducing a major, new Spider-foe . . . SLYDE!
- ☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA #313**
- ☐ **POWER PACK #18**—Kurse arrives in this **Secret Wars II** cross-over!
- ☐ **ALPHA FLIGHT #30**
- ☐ **INDIANA JONES #33**
- ☐ **DAZZLER #41**
- ☐ **MICRONAUTS #16**—The Beyonder enters the Microverse in this **Secret Wars II** cross-over!
- ☐ **LONGSHOT (Limited Series) #5**
- ☐ **VISION AND SCARLET WITCH (Limited Series) #4**
- ☐ **X-MEN ANNUAL #9**—With the New Mutants and . . . Loki! By CHRIS CLAREMONT and ART ADAMS!
- ☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR INDEX #2**—The low-down on what happened in issues #26–50!
- ☐ **INCREDIBLE HULK #315**
- ☐ **AVENGERS #263**—The Sub-Mariner joins up in this preview **X-Factor** cross-over!
- ☐ **CONAN THE BARBARIAN #178**
- ☐ **MARVEL TALES #183**
- ☐ **X-MEN #201**
- ☐ **ROM #74**
- ☐ **POWER MAN/IRON FIST #121**—See the Beyonder as you've never seen him before in this **Secret Wars II** cross-over!
- ☐ **SOLOMON KANE (Limited Series) #3**
- ☐ **G.I. JOE #43**
- ☐ **NIGHTCRAWLER (Limited Series) #3**
- ☐ **ETERNALS (Limited Series) #4**
- ☐ **BALDER THE BRAVE (Limited Series) #2**—Continuing from **Thor #362**, by WALTER SIMONSON and SAL BUSCEMA!
- ☐ **MARVEL SAGA #2**—Relive the origins of Spider-Man and the Hulk, and more!
- ☐ **THE PUNISHER (Limited Series) #1**—He's on his own at last, because **you demanded it!** Written by STEVEN GRANT. Art by MIKE ZECK and JOHN BEATTY.
- ☐ **HOWARD THE DUCK #32**
- ☐ **X-MEN/ALPHA FLIGHT (Limited Series) #2**
- ☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR #286**—Don't miss this **X-Factor** preview cross-over!
- ☐ **IRON MAN #202**
- ☐ **PETE PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #110**
- ☐ **DEFENDERS 51**
- ☐ **AR WARS 03**
- ☐ **THOR #3** Kurse is on the rampage th s **Wars II** cross-over!
- ☐ **TRA RS #12**
- ☐ **SE II (Limited Series) #7** Beyonder bring about a C golder earth?
- ☐ **SECT #4**
- ☐ **MARVEL TEAM-UP INDEX #1**—Meet all of Spidey's guest-stars from issues #1–35!
- ☐ **HANDBOOK OF THE CONAN UNIVERSE**—A treasure trove of information about Conan and the Hyborian Age!
- ☐ **DOCTOR WHO #16**

MARVEL MAGAZINES

- ☐ **MARVEL AGE #34**
- ☐ **MARVEL FANFARE #24**—Beginning the return to Weirdworld!
- ☐ **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #119**
- ☐ **SAVAGE TALES #2**—More intense action tales by GRAY MORROW, JOHN SEVERIN, MIKE GOLDEN, HERB TRIMPE and WILLIAM JUNGKUNTZ!

EPIC COMICS

- ☐ **SWORDS OF THE SWASHBUCKLERS #4**
- ☐ **MOONSHADOW (Limited Series) #5**
- ☐ **STARSTRUCK (Limited Series) #5**
- ☐ **GROO THE WANDERER #11**
- ☐ **THE ONE (Limited Series) #3**
- ☐ **ELFQUEST #6**—The menace of Madcoil!
- ☐ **COYOTE #15**
- ☐ **TIMESPIRITS #7**
- ☐ **EPIC ILLUSTRATED #33**—The conclusion of TIM CONRAD's "Toadswart," plus more illustrated tales by JOHN BYRNE, MIKE SAENZ, MIKE VOSBURG, DAN DAY, PHIL HALE, and MIKE BARON and JOHN TOTLEBEN!

STAR COMICS

- ☐ **PLANET TERRY #10**—Princess Ugly returns . . . but does Vermin the Vile!
- ☐ **PETER PORI I, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-HAM #5**—Beware . . . the Senior Simians!
- ☐ **WALLY THE WIZARD #10**
- ☐ **EWOKS #5**—Only Wicket and Kneesaa can save the forest . . . they hope!
- ☐ **ROYAL ROY #5**—Presenting the royal Olympics!
- ☐ **MUPPET BABIES #5**—There's danger in the Temple of Zoom!
- ☐ **GETALONG GANG #5**
- ☐ **CARE BEARS #2**—Watch out for the Green-Eyed Monster!

GRAPHIC NOVEL

- ☐ **GN #20: HOOKEY**—Spider-Man meets a cute little girl—who takes him on the most *monstrous* adventure of his career! It's an adventure into fear by SUSAN K. PUTNEY (writer) and BERNI WRIGHTSON (artist)!

LESS THAN AN HOUR AGO, YOU ASSAULTED A YOUNG WOMAN.
SEZ WHO?!
WE NEVER!
YOU WRECKED OUR DOOR, MAN!
THAT CRIME SHALL NOT GO UNPUNISHED.

WANNA BET?

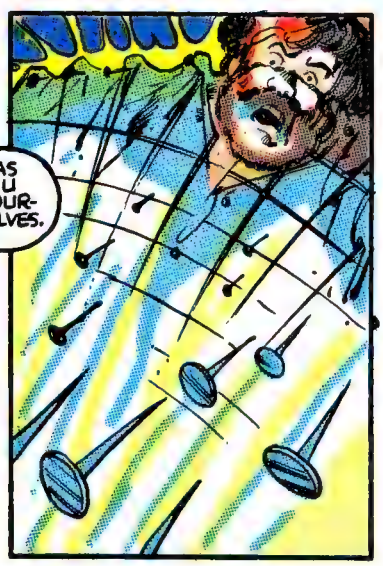
YOU BROKE IN, MADE THREATS.

WE FOUGHT BACK IN SELF-DEFENSE.

HUMANS...

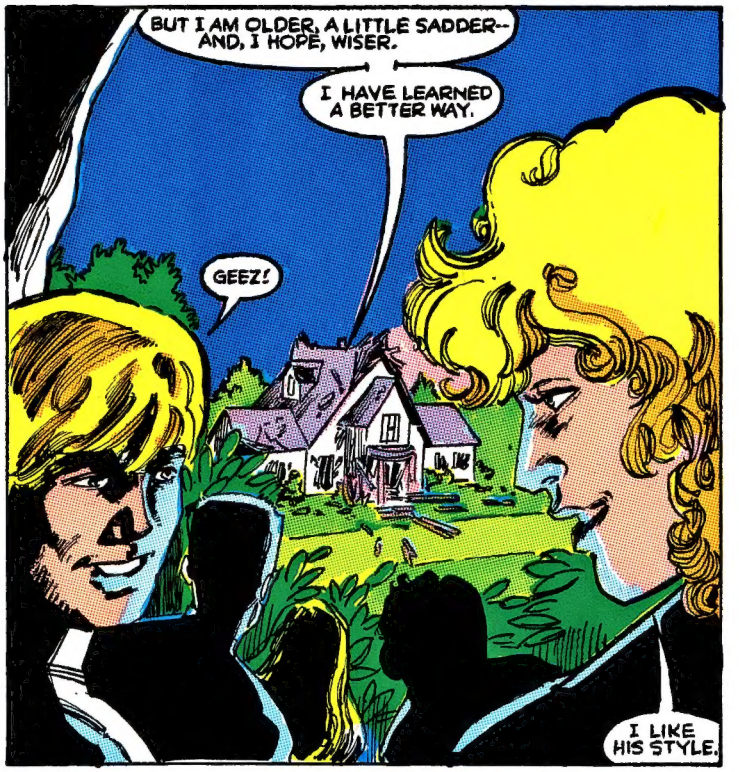
...YOUR PUNY WEAPONS MEAN AS LITTLE TO ME...

...AS YOU YOUR-SELVES.



I TRUST I HAVE YOUR UNDIVIDED ATTENTION.
WHO ARE YOU, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?!
YOU ARE SCUM, THE DREGS OF SOCIETY. A DISGRACE TO YOUR MISBEGOTTEN SPECIES--
--WITH ALL THE BENEFITS OF WEALTH AND POSITION, EDUCATION AND HEALTH, YOU AMUSE YOURSELVES BY HURTING INNOCENTS, WHO NEITHER THOUGHT NOR DID YOU ANY HARM.
IT WASN'T OUR FAULT, MISTER! SHE ASKED FOR IT!
DO NOT LIE TO ME, LITTLE MAN--
--EVER!
KRAKA
DOOOM!

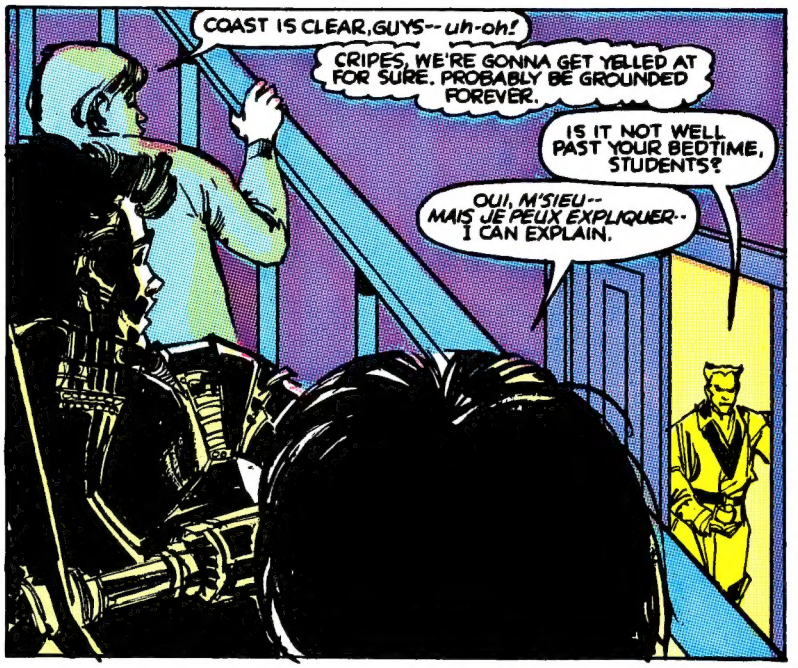
ONCE, WITH FAR LESS CAUSE, I WOULD QUITE CHEERFULLY HAVE SLAIN YOU--RENT YOUR BODIES LIMB FROM LIMB AS EASILY AS I DID YOUR HOUSE.
INDEED, I AM SORELY TEMPTED. THE WORLD WOULD NOT MISS SUCH AS YOU.

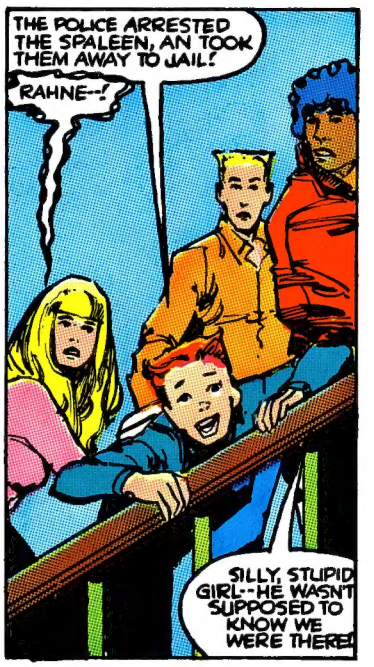

BUT I AM OLDER, A LITTLE SADDER--AND, I HOPE, WISER.
I HAVE LEARNED A BETTER WAY.
GEEZ!
I LIKE HIS STYLE.

MINE IS THE POWER TO DESTROY--BUT I CHOOSE NOT TO. PROFIT FROM MY EXAMPLE.
THE EVIL YOU DO OTHERS RETURNS UNTO YOU A THOUSAND-FOLD--IT SCARS BOTH BODY AND, FAR WORSE, SOUL.

CONTINUE DOWN THIS CRUEL AND BLOODY ROAD YOU'VE CHOSEN AND ONE DAY, YOU'RE CERTAIN TO MEET ONE NOT AS FORGIVING AS I.
IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT?
THE CHOICE, AS EVER, REMAINS YOUR OWN. FAREWELL.

BOY, DID WE LUCK OUT! I FIGURED--RICKIE, WHAT'RE YOU DOIN'?!
CALLIN' THE LAW, FRED.
DO WHAT YOU LIKE--
--I'M TURNIN' MYSELF IN!


COAST IS CLEAR, GUYS-- uh-oh!
CRIPES, WE'RE GONNA GET YELLED AT FOR SURE. PROBABLY BE GROUNDED FOREVER.
IS IT NOT WELL PAST YOUR BEDTIME, STUDENTS?
OUI, M'SIEU-- MAIS JE PEUX EXPLIQUER-- I CAN EXPLAIN.



BE QUIET UPSTAIRS. DANIELLE IS ASLEEP AND OUGHT NOT TO BE DISTURBED.
ACCORDING TO SHARON...
...A FEW DAYS REST WILL FIND HER RIGHT AS... RAIN.

YAHOO!
GREAT!
HUSH UP, DODOS, YOU HEARD THE MAN!
G'NIGHT, SIR!
THAT'S WONDERFUL!
SEE YOU TOMORROW, PROF!
YO' BOBBY-- WHAT DO YOU THINK OF OUR NEW TEACHER NOW, eh?

NEXT: SUBWAY TO SALVATION!

REPORT CARD

% MARVEL COMICS GROUP
387 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016

ANN NOCENTI
EDITOR
TERRY KAVANAGH
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Dear Ann, Chris & Bill,

I must confess that, great admirer of Bill Sienkiewicz though I am, I had my doubts about the announcement of his taking over the art on THE NEW MUTANTS. Bill's moody art on MOON KNIGHT, not to mention his powerful, sometimes experimental and increasingly geometric cover paintings, seemed completely at odds with the basic simplicity of the New Mutants. Nonetheless, I looked forward to any excuse to see Mr. Sienkiewicz on a monthly book again.

I am happy to report that after only two issues, you have laid my doubts to rest. The subject chosen, Psyche's mysterious demon-bear, provides a perfect opportunity for Bill to show his stuff, since the storyline perfectly compliments Mr. S's strengths. The expression contained in the characters' faces is extremely moving. Rahne's appearance as a wolf, especially in her transitional form, is truly terrifying. Sam's new, lean, wiry farmer's body and gaunt, angular face are entirely appropriate. Illyana looks too young, appearing to be about eleven years of age rather than her true 13 or 14 (remember, she is about the same age as Kitty), but this is nit-picking. The demon-bear is awesome. Breakdowns are fascinating.

In short, the NEW MUTANTS has become a thrilling experience and one which I eagerly await each month.

Lon Levy
154 Avenue P
Brooklyn, NY 11204

To toss your nit right back at you, Lon, the age of both Kitty and Illyana is pretty nearly 15; they haven't been 13 in quite a while. Time marches on. Bill is no longer penciling the MUTANTS; however, as of next month, he will be inking our new penciler, Mary Wilshire—whose work is currently on view in RED SONJA, with stories by Louise Simonson. In addition, Bill is painting an ELEKTRA mini-series, scripted by her creator Frank Miller, for Marvel's Epic Comics line; it's work unlike any he's ever done and we can say in all honesty that it should blow your socks off.

Dear People,

Okay, I confess. I'm 24 years old and a mutant junkie. I'm also an English Lit major who specialises in the Renaissance. You people have done this to me. I gave up your stuff 10 years ago to put my hard-earned dollars into clothing, books, etcetera, instead of into finding out the Avengers' latest problems. Then I got hooked on Shakespeare's latest problems and your products became a gradually-forgotten part of my childhood.

So what happened? I got into Grad School in Scotland and, wandering the streets in a fit of homesickness one day, found a piece of my childhood facing me in a shop window. A-yup! An AVENGERS. I bought it, stuffed it into my coat, smuggled it past my flatmates, and had a half-hour of delirious, private self-indulgence. It wasn't enough! Soon there were X-MEN all over my room, then NEW MUTANTS, KITTY & WOLVERINE, MARVEL TEAM-UPS ... and a friend doing graduate work in Celtic language was lying on my floor reading them as I finished. And we all want to know: (1) Why does Kitty Pryde never look the same age in any 2 issues of X-MEN & NEW MUTANTS? Can you *please* decide on the length of her hair! (2) Rahne scores big with us, but how old *is* she? (3) Are Kitty and Illyana the only residents of the School who room together? (4) How old is Dani? How about Sam? (5) Where did you find Rahne's attractive name and how is it pronounced? (6) How much of a spoken vocabulary does Lockheed have? Does he "belong" to anyone or just hang out at the School? (7) Are Rachel and Amara, X-Men or New Mutants? (8) How does one "graduate" from one group to another? (9) Do X-Men go to college?

Keep up the good work—kindest regards to all of you and your mutants from me and my fellow grad-student/mutant fans.

J.M. Massi
Mylnes Ct/Lawnmarket
Edinburgh, Scotland EH1 2PF

Good ol' Marvel Comics, you can't read just one! To answer your questions, J.M.: (1) She's a growing girl. However, we *have* sorted out the length of her hair, and—how's this for service—settled on both a code-name, *Shadowcat*, and a costume to go with it! (2) 13. (3) Yes. (4) Both Dani and Sam are 17. (5) The name's origin is unknown, and it's pronounced "rain." (6) As much as he wants. The real question is, who belongs to whom? His strongest attachment is to Kitty, with Illyana a close second. (7) Rachel is an X-Man, Amara a New Mutant (who has a semi-solo story in the works, penciled by Mark Beachum, and guest-starring Hercules—watch for it!) (8) Wait and see. (9) Wait and see.

Dear People,

And now that a storm of controversy has doubtless gathered around my anonymous letter in NEW MUTANTS #24, I thought I'd announce a change of opinion.

Perhaps Bill Sienkiewicz is not a hopeless mismatch for the team. His style is not the simple, cheerful versatility of Buscema and Mandrake, but it's more detailed and can do things in a stylistic complexity that this mag has not seen before (for example, each of the character portraits of the New Mutants was a fine summary of what that person is; good job.). I still have two complaints: firstly, the majority of the faces seem to be drawn unflatteringly. I know good looks are a cliche in comics, but it's not nice to flinch from the heroes as much as the villains. Secondly, the matter of darkness/light—as hinted at by the use of Cloak & Dagger. I welcome the presence of both images; to quote the Professor: "the one cannot exist without the other." But to refer to Tyrone Johnson, "the shadow was WINNING!"

Of course, growing up has its shadows but it should also have its blazing lights and "average" moments. There should be a balance, with both extremes and all the degrees between given their say; not a vast darkworld in which any light present is constantly under seige.

NEW MUTANTS #25, the latest issue I have, seems a step in the right direction. The shadows are less pervasive—except when they should be, and even then are kept under control—and the resolution, though not absolute, is satisfying—we have the sense that it's Over, in part, and things could shift to a lower gear for an issue or two.

"Anonymous"

NEXT ISSUE: Illyana becomes the Beyonder's most devoted follower—and if her fellow New Mutants won't join her, she'll destroy them. In 30 days, ride the "Subway to Salvation."

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE
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(REQUIRED BY 39 U.S.C. 3685)

1. Title of Publication: NEW MUTANTS
2. Date of Filing: September 28, 1984. 721-550
3. Frequency of Issue: MONTHLY.
3A. No. of issues published annually: 12.
3B. Annual subscription price: $7.20.
4. Complete mailing address of known office of publication: 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016.
5. Complete address of the headquarters of general business offices of the publisher: 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016.
6. Full names and complete mailing address of publisher, editor, and managing editor: Stan Lee, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016; Editor: Jim Shooter, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016; Managing Editor: Jim Shooter, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016.
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8. Known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages or other securities: None.
9. For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at special rates (Section 411.3, DMM only). The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for Federal income tax purposes. (Check one.) ☐ Have not changed during preceding 12 months. ☐ Have changed during preceding 12 months. (If changed, publisher must submit explanation with this statement.)
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A. Total No. Copies Printed (net press run): Average no. of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 509,545. Single issue nearest to filing date: 434,430.
B. Paid Circulation: 1) Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales: Average no. of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 305,826. Single issue nearest to filing date: 254,575. 2) Mail subscriptions: Average no. of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 2,068. Single issue nearest to filing date: 3,381.
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11. I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.

(signed) Tom Costello — Business Manager

MINUTEMEN
Quick
STOP
RST